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The Mission Society to Commission 24 New Missionaries *Group Among Largest Since Mission's Founding*

(NORCROSS, Ga. – April 28, 2010) The Mission Society will commission 24 new missionaries in a service at 1:15 p.m. May 11 at Simpsonwood United Methodist Church, 4500 Jones Bridge Circle NW in Norcross.

The Rev. Dr. Ira Gallaway, a Mission Society founder and retired United Methodist Church elder, will be keynote speaker for the historic event, which will send the missionaries from six states to their ministry assignments. This class of missionaries represents one of largest groups of new Mission Society workers since its 1984 founding.

“We continue to be humbled and honored by the women and men whom God is raising up to share the Good News cross-culturally,” said Dick McClain, president of The Mission Society. “These choice servants of Christ are God’s greatest gift to The Mission Society. In turn, they are our gift to the world.”

“The Mission Society rejoices that the Lord of the Harvest continues to send workers to us,” said Lauren Helveston, director of pastoral care for The Mission Society. Helveston will coordinate the event, one of two that The Mission Society holds each year to honor its newly appointed missionaries.

The new cross-cultural witnesses will minister in Namibia, the Philippines, Peru, Kenya, North Africa, Thailand, with the Global Resource Team, and to restricted-access locations.

Founded in 1984 in the Wesleyan tradition, The Mission Society recruits, trains, and sends Christian missionaries to minister around the world. At present, The Mission Society has more than 210 missionaries in 39 countries. The Mission Society develops diverse programs and ministries in accordance with its missionaries’ unique callings and gifts, ranging from well-drilling and the arts to more traditional ministries such as teaching English and church planting. Its church ministry department provides seminars, workshops and mentoring for congregations in the United States and overseas, helping equip churches for strategic outreach in their own communities and throughout the world. For more information on The Mission Society, call (800) 478-8963 or visit www.themissionsociety.org.

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